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to be no ultimate desire that it get handled immediately.

SENATOR LEWIS: I talked to several that seemed to be of the other opinion, Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: In my district.

SENATOR LEWIS: I certainly think Mr. Basler supports the concept and I have not talked in depth about his financial position at this time. I can report that I talked to Mr. Stowe of Millard who was extremely hardpressed in terms of cash flow. Let me just reveal a couple of things about school's cash flow right now. County collections are probably as slow as they have been over the last ten, twelve years in terms of the cash flow into the districts. Receipts are down and you couple that with, and in some districts this is a major obligation. In my district, there is no question about it that we're in serious trouble over it. There is probably \$155,000 to \$170,000 due that district. In terms of local millage, that's three mills. OPS has a large investment and, of course, it has an adverse effect on their cash flow. A number are not able to meet contracts that they have made for services and they are simply not paying them. Some are. Senator Kremer mentioned at Aurora has gone ahead and taken care of its contractual obligations for what they have contracted for. Some others are even to the point where there may be a friendly suit between them, and I can't remember who mentioned that as a possibility to me. There are a number of school districts in very serious trouble over it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I rise to support the intent and purposes of this bill. First of all, as usual, I think we are putting children up as political pawns again by making some rather nebulous excuses. This bill, as I see it, will allow time to the State Department of Education and to the DAS and to the schools, certain schools, to put their house in order and best serve all their constituents and patrons. So that's why I support it. I think that you gentlemen have a moral obligation to support this bill, to unfreeze that money, to allow those schools to carry on in their programs and, then, I know that we will solve this problem before this session is finished. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Cavanaugh.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President, I support the advancement of this bill and I think that we have pretty well exhausted the arguments. The arguments here are whether we want to pursue the blame or whether we want to initiate a solution ourselves. Now, when we debated LB 403 and when we debated funding last year, everyone in this body took great pleasure in getting up and expounding what we were going to do and our commitment and that we were making a full commitment to these programs and, if that funds were not sufficient in this year, we would appropriate sufficient funds next year and everyone thought that was great. Of course, last year was an election year and this year isn't. Now in the aftermath of the election, in the deterioration of the program and the administration of this has been absolutely